

**MINUTES OF THE  
THE EAST ROCKHILL TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
December 19, 2006**

The Regular Meeting of the East Rockhill Township Board of Supervisors was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Gary Volovnik who led the Salute to the Flag. Also present were Supervisors David Nyman and John Cressman, Solicitors John Rice, Esq. and Patrick Armstrong, Esq., Engineer Steven Baluh, P.E., Township Manager Anne Klepfer, and members of the press and public.

**Item #1. Approval of Minutes:**

**On motion** by John Cressman, **seconded** by David Nyman to approve the minutes of November 28, 2006. The motion **carried 3-0**.

**Item #2. Payment of Bills:**

David Nyman **moved** to approve the bills list dated December 19, 2006 totaling \$90,985.27 and advance the Treasurer funds for accounts payable prior to January 2, 2007. John Cressman **seconded** the motion and it **carried 3-0**.

**Public Comment:**

Mr. Hans Schnitzler a resident of Stone Edge Road was present to share a few comments with the Board. He stated that he uses the walking path at the Community Park extensively and called Mrs. Klepfer to complain about several areas that were flooding and freezing. He was astonished and impressed that the very next day he saw Public Works Director Steven Funk assessing the problems and making improvements. While he is very pleased with how quickly Mr. Funk responded, he is hoping that one of the swales installed are just temporary and that a pipe or box trench will later be installed. Mrs. Klepfer will discuss with Mr. Funk what his long term plans are. Mr. Schnitzler next inquired about the status of the Stone Edge Road Bridge and the Township's plans to making improvements to reduce the flooding. The Board explained that the project is on hold until an easement across a corner property, as required by DEP, can be obtained. Mr. Schnitzler next discussed speeding on Stone Edge Road and asked if speed bumps/humps could be installed. He provided the Township with a newspaper article about Bethlehem, Pennsylvania installing traffic humps. The Board said they would look into them. Mr. Schnitzler concluded by thanking the Board for the street light that was installed at the intersection of Stone Edge Road and Three Mile Run Road.

**Item #3: Manager's Report: Anne W. Klepfer**

2007 Budget: Mrs. Klepfer reported that the draft 2007 budget was advertised as required for a twenty day public comment period. She received written comments and questions from Mr. Jim Nietupski. Mr. Nietupski was present and was asked if he cared to comment now. Mr. Nietupski said his main comment is that he believes that the proposed golf course should have its own line item or fund to itemize all the expenditures associated with it. Mr. Cressman thanked Mr. Nietupski for his suggestion and said it is something to consider. Mrs. Klepfer offered that at such time as capital expenditures or debt service are anticipated that she would agree that a separate line item or sinking fund might be desirable.

Mr. Nyman commented on the 2007 Budget and budget process by saying that his comfort level with the budget is higher than in previous years because of the thorough review it received and the multiple budget work sessions held to create it.

John Cressman **moved** to adopt **Resolution No. 2006-25**: A Resolution Adopting and Enacting the Annual Budget for the Township of East Rockhill Township, Bucks County for the Year 2007 with Total Revenues and Expenditures of \$4,379,965.00. David Nyman **seconded** the motion and the motion **carried 3-0**.

Real Estate Tax Resolution: Mrs. Klepfer stated that the 2007 Budget was based on setting the Real Estate Tax rate at 4.275 mills for general fund and 1.0 mills for fire protection. John Cressman **moved** to adopt **Resolution No. 2006-26**: A Resolution of East Rockhill Township, Bucks County, Fixing the Real Estate Tax Rate for 2007 at 4.275 mills for General Fund Purposes and 1 mill for Fire Protection Purposes. David Nyman **seconded** the motion and the motion **carried 3-0**.

Street Light District: The 2007 Budget also calls for the creation of a street light district and the establishment of a \$50.00 flat fee charged to all residences within the district to cover the cost of the street lights. David Nyman **moved** to adopt **Resolution No. 2006-27**: A Resolution Establishing Street Light Districts in the Township of East Rockhill, Bucks County; Creating and Setting a Uniform Assessment; and Setting for the Procedures for Collection and Assessment of Penalties. John Cressman **seconded** the motion and the motion **carried 3-0**.

Planning Commission Vacancy: Two resumes were received, one from Mr. Jim Nietupski and another from Mr. Jim Valletta. The Board will review the applications and make an appointment at the Re-organization Meeting on January 2, 2007.

David Nyman **moved** to accept the Manager's Report as presented. John Cressman **seconded** the motion and the motion **carried 3-0**.

**Item #4: Planning Commission Report: Anne Fenley**

The Planning Commission recommended adoption of the proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendment regarding the Inn Use. They also recommended approval for the Cloonan and Capizzi Minor Subdivisions and reviewed two informal sketch plans. John Cressman **moved** to approve the Planning Commission Report. David Nyman **seconded** the motion and the motion **carried 3-0**.

**Item #5: PWTA Report: John R. Cressman**

The Authority continued their discussion of the on-going issues between Hilltown Township and Perkasio Borough Authority and PWTA's involvement. Mr. Cressman also discussed his desire for continued consideration of flow reports and PWTA's reluctance to approve them. The Board asked Solicitor John Rice to send a letter to PWTA as a reminder of their court-ordered obligations. David Nyman **moved** to approve the PWTA Report. Gary Volovnik **seconded** the motion and the motion **carried 3-0**.

**Item #6: Engineer's Report: Steve Baluh, P.E.**

Extensions were received from Cloonan, Capizzi and B&D. He also reviewed five escrow releases. They are for the following projects: Pennridge School District, Fox Hill Subdivision and Crest View Subdivision (3). In addition he asked the Board to authorize the close-out of Country Hunt since they have satisfied all of the Township's required improvements. John Cressman **moved** to authorize escrow releases and the closeout of Country Hunt Subdivision as recommended by the Township Engineer. David Nyman **seconded** the motion and the motion **carried 3-0**.

John Cressman **moved** to accept the Engineer's Report. Gary Volovnik **seconded** the motion. The motion **carried 3-0**.

**Item #7: Solicitor's Report: John B. Rice, Esq.**

Mr. Keeler and the Township have come to agreement that he will provide an easement through his property for a sanitary sewer line for \$5.00 per lineal foot compensation. He will prepare an Easement Agreement and the Deed of Easement will be executed later when the participating property owners have formally agreed to finance the project.

Mr. Rice also reported that the Zoning Amendment (Inn) and the Subdivision Amendment (Recreation Fees) are in their final form and have been sent to Bucks County Planning Commission. They should be ready for a public hearing and adoption at the January 16, 2007 Regular Meeting. David Nyman **moved** to authorize the advertisement and scheduling of the public hearing for consideration of adoption of the Zoning and Subdivision Ordinance Amendments. John Cressman **seconded** the motion and it **carried 3-0**.

Mr. Rice reported that the best proposal for a Tax Anticipation Note was received by Quakertown National Bank which included a rate of 3.9% and no fees. David Nyman **moved** to accept the proposal from Quakertown National Bank and schedule settlement for January 3, 2007. John Cressman **seconded** the motion and it **carried 3-0**.

Gary Volovnik **moved** to accept the Solicitor's Report. David Nyman **seconded** the motion and the motion **carried 3-0**.

**Item #8: Emergency Services Reports**

Perkasie Borough Fire Chief David Worthington and 2007 Sellersville Fire Department Chief Harry J. McElhare was present to field any questions. The Board was advised that new officers for the company would be formalized in January.

David Nyman **moved** to accept the Emergency Service Reports. John Cressman **seconded** the motion and the motion **carried 3-0**.

**Item #9: Other Business**

Mrs. Klepfer presented a draft Resolution urging the Bucks County Board of Elections to move forward with the realignment of East Rockhill Township's two existing voting districts. David R. Nyman **moved** to adopt **Resolution No. 2006-28**. John Cressman **seconded** the motion and the motion **carried 3-0**.

**Public Comment II**

Nestor E. Barolin of East Schwenkmill Road commented that he thinks the Township should try to get rid of the Tax Anticipation Note. The Board replied that the Township is taking steps to be able to do that. Mr. Barolin also commented that the designation "East" Schwenkmill Road is confusing and not clear. David Worthington noted that the creek is the dividing line between east and west.

Patrick Cobb of the News Herald clarified his understanding of the Street Light District and which residences would be subject to the assessment. He also asked what the cost of the Branch Road Sewer extension is going to be and was directed to contact the Township staff during business hours. He also asked questions about the PWTA report.

**Item #10. Adjournment**

Chairman Volovnik announced that the Re-organization Meeting will be held January 2, 2007 and the Board's monthly Work Session will follow immediately instead of the second Tuesday date. He wished everyone a healthy and happy New Year. David Nyman **moved** to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:05 PM. John Cressman **seconded** the motion which **carried 3-0**.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Anne Klepfer  
Secretary/Manager

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Date approved